

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. When one company owns many local stations and uses the stations to promote a narrow point of view we are all losers. In fact, the free exchange of information in a democracy is under threat by this consolidation of ownership.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their bottom line. Instead of something produced from the narrow focus of media giant Sinclair, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive, balanced news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.